

## News Release

# Educator, Youth Advocate, and Performer Hasan Davis presents "Discover York" on Thursday, February 19, 2015, at the U of M Crookston; Presentation begins at Noon in Bede Ballroom; Encore performance in Kiehle Auditorium at 7 p.m.

By Elizabeth Iollertson on Friday, February 6, 2015"Discover York" is the title of a presentation by storyteller, performer, motivator, and youth

advocate, Hasan Davis, J.D. (in photo), on Thursday, February 19, 2015, at the University of Minnesota Crookston. The presentation takes place from noon to 2 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center. An evening encore performance is planned for 7 p.m. in the Kiehle Auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend, and no admission will be charged. Discover York tells the story of our nation's first African American explorer. York, a slave, was a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition seeking a route from the frontier to the Pacific Ocean.

Davis, an attorney and educator, is committed to improving the lives of our nation's children and youth. His deep beliefs in the impact of committed adults on a child's success are based on his own early experience as a youth in the system.

### Background

After an early history of social and academic challenges, including learning disabilities, pre-teen arrest and expulsion from alternative school and college, Davis found the courage to change. Starting with a change in his attitude and opinions of personal worth, Davis petitioned for re-admission to the college that expelled him twice. The year Davis finally graduated from Berea College he was elected president of the student body, voted homecoming king and received the Navy V-12 award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to campus life and interracial kinship. From Berea, Davis went on to graduate from law school. From 2008 to May 2014, Davis provided executive leadership to the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, serving as Deputy Commissioner for Facilities and Operations and then as Commissioner.

Davis applies his intimate knowledge and expertise as an active speaker, trainer and advocate for justice, education, and diversity initiatives on the local, state and national levels where he continues to encourage building living and learning communities where all people have the opportunity to succeed. For more information on Hasan Davis, visit [www.hasandavis.com](http://www.hasandavis.com).

The University of Minnesota Crookston now delivers 31 bachelor's degree programs, 22 minors, and 36 concentrations on campus as well as 14 degree programs entirely online. These degrees are offered in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from more than 20 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit[www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu).



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